

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 USIA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 COME-00 SP-02

AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 EURE-00 AGR-05 /092 W

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P 110940Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3504

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3196

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT: NEXT STEPS

REF: A) STATE 161425 B) STATE 159189

1. I AM PARTICULARLY HEARTENED BY NEWS THAT BOTH THE HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAVE ACTED FAVORABLY ON TPZ ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS, FROM HERE IT SEEMS TO ME THERE IS STRONG JUSTIFICATION FOR ADMINISTRATION SEIZING THE INITIATIVE AND PRESSING FOR FINAL ACTION BY BOTH HOUSES PRIOR TO THE AUGUST RECESS, ESPECIALLY IF EVEN SENATOR JACKSON'S OFFICE (REFTEL B) THINKS ACTION CAN BE COMPLETED THAT SOON. IN ANY CASE, SHOULD THERE BE A HELSINKI SUMMIT MEETING AND AN AUGUST PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO ROMANIA I BELIEVE IT IMPERATIVE TO GET THIS MATTER BEHIND US PRIOR TO SUCH A VISIT, NOW THAT ROMANIAN PERFORMANCE HAS PICKED UP.

2. IN THE MEANTIME I STRONGLY URGE THAT EXIM PROMPTLY BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO RE-COMMENCE APPROVAL OF EX-IM LOAN APPLICATIONS. MY UNDERSTANDING FROM THE OUTSET HAS BEEN THAT

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ONCE THE AGREEMENT SEEMED ASSURED OF APPROVAL EX-IM WOULD

BE RELIEVED OF ALL TEMPORARY CONSTRAINTS ON CONDUCT OF BUSINESS WITH THE GOR. WE APPEAR NOW TO HAVE REACHED THAT POINT AND I RECOMMEND IMMEDIATE ACTION ON THIS FRONT.

3. SIMILARLY, I HOPE THAT WE WILL GIVE PROMPT AND GENEROUS CONSIDERATION TO GOR REQUESTS FOR CCC LOANS IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEED TO COVER FOOD GRAIN SHORTAGES RESULTING FROM FLOOD DAMAGE. MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS ON WHAT WE CAN EXPECT IN THE WAY OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE ARE BEING REPORTED SEPTEL. WE WILL OF COURSE MAKE THE BEST APPRAISAL WE CAN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE LEGITIMACY OF THESE REQUESTS. BUT WHERE THEY APPEAR TO BE JUSTIFIED AND IN LIGHT OF OUR OPTIMISTIC FORECASTS OF OUR HARVESTS I HOPE WE CAN TAKE FAST ACTION TO MEET THE NEED.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, TRADE AGREEMENTS, LEGISLATIVE BILLS, BANK LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUCHAR03196
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750240-0225
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750761/aaaaccof.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 161425, 75 STATE 159189
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT: NEXT STEPS
TAGS: ETRD, PINT, PGOV, EAID, RO, US, XMB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006